



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
P.O. Box 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

Paper No. 11

MAIL

MAY 10 2004

DIRECTOR OFFICE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

IBM CORPORATION, T.J. WATSON RESEARCH CENTER
P.O. BOX 218
YORKTOWN HEIGHTS NY 10598

In re Application of: :
Rieko KATAOKA, et al. :
Application No. 09/682,276 :
Filed: August 13, 2001 :
For: ENCODING METHOD AND DEVICE :

DECISION
ON PETITION

This is a response to the copy of the amendment filed March 11, 2004. The copy of the amendment is treated as a petition to withdraw holding of abandonment.


*The petition is **granted**.*

This application became abandoned for failure to timely file a response to the Office action mailed June 20, 2003, which set a shortened statutory period of three (3) months to reply. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed on March 8, 2004.

The copy of the amendment bears a certificate of facsimile transmission dated September 22, 2003. Also included with the amendment is a copy of an Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission indicating that a 12 page document from Petitioner was received in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 22, 2003.

Accordingly, it is deemed that the original amendment was received on September 22, 2003 and subsequently misplaced. The Notice of Abandonment is vacated and the holding of abandonment withdrawn.

The copy of the amendment has been entered. The file will be forwarded to the examiner for consideration in due course.


Kenneth A. Wieder
Special Program Examiner
Technology Center 2600
Communications